



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

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**MEMBER**  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

February 13, 2013

#### **Re: Testimony in Support of HB 6041- An Act Concerning the Cost Effectiveness of Installing Hanging Height Restrictors at Entrances to the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways.**

I would like to thank the Honorable Co-Chairs Senator Andrew Maynard and Representative Antonio Guerrero, the Honorable Vice Chairs Senator Andrea Stillman and Representative Steven Mikutel, and the Ranking Members Senator Toni Boucher and Representative David Scribner, and the entire membership of the Transportation Committee for their time this afternoon addressing this issue.

I testify today, in support of HB 6041- An Act Concerning the Cost Effectiveness of Installing Hanging Height Restrictors at Entrances to the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways. This practical, creative, low-cost concept was brought before me by a constituent, Steven Cody McCubbin of Newtown.

The installation of hanging, tubular-height restrictors at entrances to the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways would help to prevent unauthorized access of over-height vehicles to parkways with low-clearance bridges. Recently, a bus traveling from Pennsylvania to Boston was involved in a serious accident where it slammed into the top of a bridge, injuring 35 people. The impact pushed the entire roof more than eight feet before the overhead luggage bins pancaked onto passengers unable to get out.

Posted signs are missed several times a year by commercial vehicles unfamiliar with CT roadways, resulting in costly damage to infrastructure and long inconveniences for CT motorists and business people. By installing tubular restrictors, like those at the entrance of most parking structures, these occurrences will be eliminated for a fraction of the cost incurred repairing struck bridges.

In summary, I urge the members of the Transportation facility to support HB 6041 and discontinue the preventable infrastructure damage incurred each year on Connecticut roadways due to unauthorized over-height vehicles.

Thank you for your time and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.